adhere to the criteria laid down by my predecessor in his rulings on March 4 and November 11, 1986.

I am having a copy of the Report of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table forwarded to the Minister of Finance and am also getting the copies of the Report circulated to Members for their information.

**श्री चतुरानन मिश्र** (बिहार) : मान्यवर, आपने और आपके प्रेडिसेसर ने रूलिंग दी है, आपके सक्सेसर को भी यही कमेंट नही करना पड़े, इसकी गारंटी यदि जरा करवा देते, तो अच्छा होता ।

**श्री सभापति** : ईश्वर से प्रार्थना करते हैं ।

**श्री चतुरानन मिश्र** : भगवान इनको सद्बुद्धि दे ।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी** (मध्य प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, आप सरकार को फटकार लगाइये । यह मामला ऐसा है कि उनको फटकारना चाहिए ।

**श्री सभापति** : वह तो शब्दों में काफी छिपी हुई फटकार है ।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी**: नहीं, इनकी चमड़ी जरा मोटी है ।

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## THE TAMIL NADU STATE LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Tamil Nadu to make laws.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL SERVICE COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES (APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL OFFICERS) AMENDMENT BILL, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Service Cooperative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Act, 1986.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE TAMIL NADU COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES (APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL OFFICERS) AMENDMENT BILL, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Act, 1976.

*The question was proposed.*

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I wanted to make a submission on the introduction of this Bill. Everybody is expecting to uphold the spirit of democracy, elections have to be conducted for the State Legislature of Tamil Nadu. But we are surprised over the announcement made by the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Alexander, that elections for cooperative societies will be held very soon. Therefore, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether the Government will clarify this because if they conduct elections for cooperative societies, it

[Shri V. Gopalsamy]

means the Government is considering postponing elections for the State Legislature. Then it amounts to putting the cart before the horse. Therefore, elections for the State Legislature should take precedence Government of Tamil Nadu should clarify this point; otherwise, it will create a lot of misunderstanding. Would the honourable Minister kindly clarify whether elections for the State Legislature will take precedence or not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He cannot explain that.

Now the question is:

'That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Societies (Appointment of Special Officers) Act, 1976.

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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..[**The Deputy Chairman** in the Chair]

## SPECIAL MENTIONS

### Need to determine the exact age of Taj Mahal through scientific means

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA (Delhi): Madam Deputy Chairman, I have the pleasure of bringing to the notice of the House and of the Government through you a matter of grave concern, a matter of the most romantic monument, the Taj Mahal. Madam, Taj Mahal has been there as one of the wonders of the world. It is a very important factor in our tourism and it is also a very important factor for people like Mr. Vajpayee and myself who are interested in having a romantic life in this world.

Madam, the question now is whether the Taj Mahal is three hundred years old or eight hundred years old and whether this has remained there for eight hundred years or for three hundred years only. There is some new light which has come on the life and the age of the Taj Mahal by a professor, Prof. P. N. Oak, who has clearly stated that the Taj Mahal is not three hundred years old, but it is eight hundred years old and was probably built by a Hindu emperor.

Now, Madam, I would like to suggest that our Archaeological Department may use the modern methods of checking the date. The carbon-dating method is there and the stone can be checked for age and this controversy can be settled once and for all. I think it is important not only from the point of view of the age and the care of the Taj Mahal itself, but also from the point of view of our history, our culture, to find out whether the monument has been there for eight hundred years or only for three hundred years.

Madam, I would like to urge upon the Archaeological Department to take a very close look at this matter and try to settle this controversy. Thank you, Madam.

### Failure of Anti-poverty Programmes in U.P.

**श्री सत्यपाल मलिक** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीया उपसभापति महोदया, मैं जिस प्रश्न की तरफ या जिस समस्या की तरफ आप के माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं हालांकि वह उत्तर प्रदेश से संबंधित है लेकिन बहुत बुनियादी समस्या है, हर साल हम लोगों को बताया जाता है विभिन्न किस्म की रिपोर्टें जो हैं उनके अनुसार ज्यादा गरीबों की तरक्की के कार्यक्रमों का फायदा हो रहा है। मैं जिस प्रदेश से आता हूं उत्तर प्रदेश से, अभी हाल में नेशनल सैम्पल सर्वे संगठन के अनुसार बहुत चौंकाने वाले तथ्य सामने आये हैं। इस संगठन के अनुसार उत्तर प्रदेश में जो गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रहने वाल लोग हैं उनकी तादाद लगातार बढ़ रही है और यह उन तमाम कार्यक्रमों के बावजूद है जिनका जबर्दस्त प्रचार सारे भारत में किया जाता है। नेशनल सेम्पल सर्वे संगठन के अनुसार 1972-73 में 413 लाख लोग गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे बसते थे। 1983-84 में